in next few years subject to availability of funds. Repair and rehabilitation works required to be undertaken on priority are being carried out.

Generation of additional resources by railways

3446. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by the Railways to Gnerate additional internal resources;

(b) how far the Railways have been successful in their endeavour;

(c) the details of measures taken to plug leakages; and

(d) the resources mobilised as a result of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) With a view to generating additional internal resources, Railways have taken a number of measures such as rationalization of freight rates and passenger fares, aggressive marketing with improved freight services and commercial initiatives, and optimum utilization of assets including commercial use of land and air space, commercial publicity on trains and at railway premises as also leasing of Right of Way along the railway track for laying Optical Fibre Cable network.

(b) As a result of various steps taken, the revenue generation on the Railways has increased progressively year after year. Earnings of the Railways in the year 2000-01 increased by 6.5% over 1999-2000 and the earnings for the year 2001-02 are anticipated to increase by 7% over 2000-01. The rationalization of fare and freight is anticipated to yield Rs. 1360 crore in the year 2002-03.

(c) and (d) Regular checks are conducted against ticketless / irregular travel and unbooked luggage. These checks are intensified during peak rush periods so as to plug revenue leakage. As a result of these drives, the Railways earned a revenue of Rs. 165.71 crore during the year 2001- 02 (up to January, 2002). Consequently, the earning from window sale of tickets during this period was Rs. 9347.21 crore as against Rs. 8660.37 crore during the corresponding period of last year, registering an increase of 7.9%

RTSAs in A.P.

3447. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) are functioning in Andhra Pradesh, who purchase tickets from Railway Counters, on behalf of passengers;